

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A climatic cabinet, comprising:

~~with~~ a door[[,]] accommodating access to a utilization space[[,]] ;

at least one specimen storage device [[(3),]]accessible through the door and utilization space;

at least one inner transport device and at least one transfer opening with the at least one specimen storage device, characterized in that ; and

a buffer specimen storage device and an outer transport device are arranged outside the transfer opening and that the outer transport device establishes a transport connection between the buffer specimen storage device and the transfer opening by which a specimen can be moved between the buffer specimen storage device and the inner transport device, with the buffer specimen storage device comprising a plurality of specimen storage locations.

2. **(Cancelled)**

3. **(Currently Amended)** The buffer specimen storage device for use with a climatic cabinet in accordance with Claim 1, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the buffer specimen storage device is designed as a separate unit that can be detachably connected via a coupling device to the climatic cabinet.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the buffer specimen storage device comprises at least one specimen slide cassette.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the buffer specimen storage device comprises several specimen storage cassettes in a carousel arrangement.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outer transport device comprises a vertically movable lift and a horizontally movable shifting unit.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transfer location for a specimen is located between the outer and the inner transport device in the area of the transfer opening.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, with several transfer openings by which correspondingly many specimen storage devices ~~[[3]]~~ are loaded by several inner transport devices, characterized in that the outer transport device has an operative connection to all transfer openings.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the buffer specimen storage device and the outer transport device are arranged in a housing with a service opening.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A buffer specimen storage device with an outer transport device and housing for use with a climatic cabinet according to Claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ it wherein the bugger specimen storage device is designed as a separate unit that can be detachably connected to the climatic cabinet via a coupling device.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a device is present for the pre-air-conditioning of the buffer specimen storage device and/or of the outer transport device.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the device for pre-air-conditioning is designed as a blower.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the device for pre-air-conditioning is controlled as a function of an actuation of the service opening.

14. **(New)** A climatic cabinet, comprising:

a door accommodating access to a utilization space ;

at least one specimen storage device accessible through the door and utilization space;

at least one inner transport device and at least one transfer opening with the at least one specimen storage device ; and

a buffer specimen storage device and an outer transport device are arranged outside the transfer opening and that the outer transport device establishes a transport connection between the buffer specimen storage device and the transfer opening by which a specimen can be moved between the buffer specimen storage device and the inner transport device, with the buffer specimen storage device comprising a plurality of specimen storage locations, the buffer specimen storage device comprises a plurality of specimen storage locations, a device is present for the pre-air-conditioning of the buffer specimen storage device and/or of the outer transport device.

15. (New) A climatic cabinet, comprising:

a door means accommodating access to a utilization space ;

a specimen storage means accessible through the door and utilization space;

an inner transport means and at least one transfer opening with the specimen storage means ; and

a buffer specimen storage means and an outer transport means are arranged outside the transfer opening and that the outer transport device establishes a transport connection between the buffer specimen storage device and the transfer opening by which a specimen can be moved between the buffer specimen storage device and the inner transport device, with the buffer specimen storage device comprising a plurality of specimen storage locations, a device is present for the pre-air-conditioning of the buffer specimen storage device and/or

of the outer transport device, a device is present for the pre-air-conditioning of the buffer specimen storage device and/or of the outer transport device .

16. **(New)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 15, wherein the buffer specimen storage means comprises a plurality of specimen storage locations, and the buffer specimen storage means for use with a climatic cabinet includes as a separate unit that can be detachably connected via a coupling means to the climatic cabinet.

17. **(New)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 15, wherein the buffer specimen storage means comprises at least one specimen slide cassette, and the buffer specimen storage device comprises several specimen storage cassettes in a carousel arrangement.

18. **(New)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 15, wherein the outer transport means comprises a vertically movable lift and a horizontally movable shifting unit, and the transfer location for a specimen is located between the outer and the inner transport means in the area of the transfer opening.

19. **(New)** The climatic cabinet according to Claim 15, with several transfer openings by which correspondingly many specimen storage means are loaded by several inner transport devices, wherein the outer transport means has an operative connection to all transfer openings, the buffer specimen storage means and the outer transport device are arranged in a housing with a service opening.

Docket No. 87333.3321
Application No. 10/767,494
Customer No. 30734

Patent

20. **(New)** The climatic cabinet according to claim 15, further comprising a buffer specimen storage device with an outer transport device and housing for use with a climatic cabinet is included as a separate unit that can be detachably connected to the climatic cabinet via a coupling device.